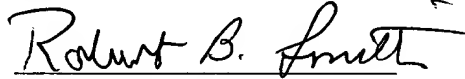


**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments to the claims are to reduce the number of initial claims, remove multiple dependencies, and delete the word "preferably" from claim 7 for better clarity. Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Smith", with a horizontal line underneath it.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

4. (Amended) Material according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 3], wherein said macromolecule comprises an amphiphilic polymer.

7. (Amended) Material according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 6], wherein said substratum is pretreated or modified[, preferably] by contacting the substratum with a charged group or a hydrophilic compound.

11. (Amended) Material according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 4], wherein said ratio is in the range of from 0 to less than 0.30.

15. (Amended) Material according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 4], wherein the first advancing contact angle  $\alpha$  is substantially identical to the advancing contact angle  $\alpha_0$ .

16. (Amended) Material according to claim 1 [any of the proceeding claims], wherein said material, when contacted by a first determinant comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide, or part thereof, a nucleic acid moiety, a carbohydrate moiety, and a lipid moiety, including any combination thereof, is capable of maintaining said compound in a biologically active form.

18. (Amended) Material according to claim 16 [or 17], wherein said further comprising said first determinant comprising said compound, wherein said

first determinant is maintained in a biologically active form when contacted by said substratum and/or said macromolecule.

20. (Amended) Material according to claim 15, [any of claims 15 to 19] wherein said biologically active form or conformation is maintained and/or improved and/or stabilized by means of the cooperativity of said substratum and said macromolecule.